

Testimony of
Bruce Gresczyk Jr.
Before the General Law Committee
February 26, 2008

In opposition of:
HB 5610 - An Act Requiring Last Sale Dates For Retail Food Products

Good Afternoon Senator Colapietro, Representative Stone and committee members, my name is Bruce Gresczyk Jr. My family and I are vegetable farmers from New Hartford, Connecticut. All of the vegetables we grow are eventually sold at retail locations. Potatoes are our primary crop of which we harvested well over 500,000 pounds of this past year. Almost every potato we harvested was eventually sold in ten pound bags. It would be impossible to date a product such as this, because its shelf life is in direct correlation with the conditions it was subject to in the all the processes up to when it was sold. Not to mention the condition the potatoes are subjected to once a customer purchases them. If a ten pound bag of potatoes is subject to certain extremes it could become rotten in less than a day, but if it is handled correctly it could last for several months. Every vegetable that I can think of is subject to these extremes. Dates on products such as this would not only be a disservice to businesses like my families, but also to our customers. I ask that you consider this in your discussions on this bill. Thank you for letting my voice my opinion, I am open to any questions you might have.